

Missouri Department of Corrections 2023 PREA Annual Report

The Missouri Department of Corrections (MODOC) is committed to providing a safe environment for all offenders housed within our facilities. While incarcerated within the Missouri Department of Corrections, or residing in one of the agency's community confinement facilities, offenders have the right to be free from sexual abuse, sexual harassment and retaliation. The agency maintains a strict Zero Tolerance policy regarding the sexual abuse of offenders within the agency's 19 prisons and eight community confinement facilities.

In 2023, MODOC continued our commitment to offender sexual safety and remained in full compliance with the requirements of the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA). In October 2023, the governor again certified the State of Missouri to be in full compliance with PREA Standards.

Pursuant to 115 CFR 88 Data Review for Corrective Action, the following is a summary of the agency's efforts in maintaining full PREA compliance:

Trend Analysis:

The PREA Unit's team of specialized investigators conducts both criminal and administrative offender sexual abuse investigations. Offender sexual harassment investigations are conducted by each facility's Institutional Investigators.

In calendar year 2023, MODOC received and investigated 628 allegations of offender sexual abuse and/or sexual harassment, which is a slight decrease from 677 PREA investigations conducted in calendar year 2022.

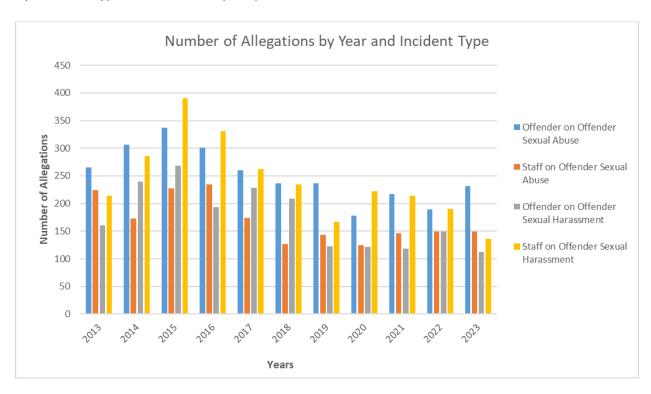
The chart below depicts the number of allegations received in 2023, by incident type and investigation findings.

Туре	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded	Pending	Total
Offender on Offender					
Sexual Abuse	16	166	49	0	231
Staff on Offender Sexual Abuse	47	48	54	0	149
Offender on Offender Sexual Harassment	10	75	24	3	112
Staff on Offender Sexual Harassment	5	105	24	2	136
TOTAL	78	394	151	5	628

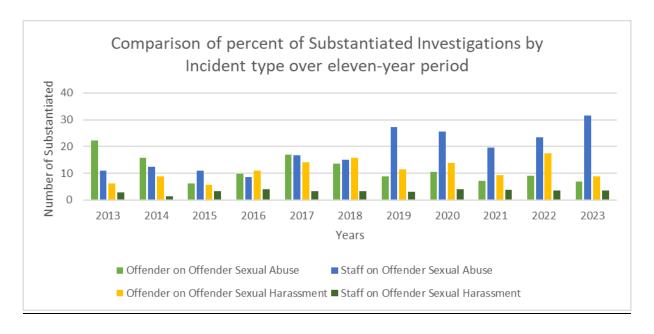
Since 2015, MODOC has seen a significant decline in the number of allegations received as depicted in the table below; however, in 2021 there was a slight increase from 2019 and 2020.



The graph below gives a visual comparison of the number of investigations conducted per year by incident type over a eleven-year period.



The chart below depicts the percent of substantiated investigations by incident type over an eleven-year period. In 2023, the department had another increase in the percent of substantiated staff sexual abuse investigations from the previous year. PREA investigators are continuing to present at each PREA Basic Training class to ensure all new staff have a solid foundation regarding the agency's commitment to offender sexual safety. This ensures that a subject matter expert provides up-to-date information and reiterates the department's Zero Tolerance stance and the department's effort to seek prosecution of staff who commit offender sexual abuse.



Ongoing Corrective Action:

Pursuant to PREA Standards 115.87, 115.88 and 115.89, the agency collects accurate, uniform data for every allegation of sexual abuse and repeated allegations of sexual harassment from prisons and community confinement facilities under the governor's direct control. Below is an overview of significant enhancements made during calendar year 2023:

While MODOC facilities have been in full compliance with PREA standards since 2015, the department continues to enhance our efforts toward sexual safety for our offender population, which includes continued upgrades to video technology, updates to the biannual all-staff training and continued PREA Unit presentations at all basic training courses. The Adult Internal Risk Assessment is under committee review to improve the departments efforts at identifying those who are at risk of becoming abused and those who are at risk of abusing. This will provide the department with better data to make housing and programing assignments. Additionally, the department has taken steps to improve retaliation awareness and documentation of retaliation monitoring as well as adopted new PREA educational videos for all offenders at intake of all facilities.